

Assemblymember Christine Kehoe Brings You News

November 4, 2002

San Diego gets Historic Parkway

The portion of Interstate 163 that runs through Balboa Park is one of the prettiest stretches of highway in our state. I'm proud of its beauty – as I know many of you are -- and want to do all I can to keep it that way. That's why I introduced legislation to designate it a historic parkway.

Designating the Cabrillo Highway a Historic Parkway - recognizable by the brown 'Historical Route' signs - continues our ongoing effort to protect the historic nature and now we'll be eligible for Federal funding to preserve its beauty.

California law required that roads must be built prior to 1945 to be "historic". This was changed to allow the historic designation of this stretch of freeway, which was built in 1948 using highway designs that were used prior to 1945. As a member of the Transportation Committee, I had this provision included in a bill that dealt with a statewide transportation issues.

I was joined by many Balboa Park boosters on Friday, October 25 to make the announcement public. Visit my website and see pictures of Councilmember Toni Atkins, Congresswoman Susan Davis, Peggy Lacy, Robert Witty and Shelley Stefanyszyn from the S.D. Historical Society, Warren Simon from the Hillcrest Association, Ellen Oppenheim Director of the City's Park & Rec. Department, Dr. Mick Hagger of Natural History Museum, Donna Damzon from the San Diego Zoo, Dan Mazella from the Balboa Park Committee, David Swarens from SOHO and more.

Another Good Voting Record

The California Alliance for Pride and Equality released its annual Legislative Voting Record, which rates each of California's 120 state Legislators based on their votes on bills impacting lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) Californians. I'm proud to report that I received a rating of "outstanding".

"We are extremely pleased to report that more than 50% of the Legislature has received a rating of 'good,' 'very good,' or 'outstanding' based on their voting records," said Geoff Kors, CAPE's executive director who noted that over 40% of the legislators were rated as 'outstanding' for their record on LGBT related legislation.

Kors continued, "Nine out of the eleven major bills supported by CAPE this year passed both houses of the Legislature, and seven of those nine were signed into law by Governor Davis. Looking at the CAPE 2002 Voting Record, it is easy to see why. The majority of members of the Legislature, like the majority of the public, support equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Californians." To view the voting record, go to <http://www.calcape.org/index/index.htm>

5th Graders Put Pen to Paper

Red Ribbon week was the last week in October. In an effort to promote the campaign and raise awareness of the importance of staying drug-free, I kicked off a 5th grade essay contest in which students will write about the importance of living a tobacco free life. I also sent Red Ribbon stickers, bookmarks and certificates to all the schools in the 76th district.

The school with the winning essay will have a student assembly during which I will present the author of the winning essay a prize and commendation from the California State Assembly.

The first Red Ribbon Campaign was organized in 1986 by a grassroots organization of parents dedicated to protecting communities from the destruction caused by alcohol and drug abuse. The red ribbon was adopted as a symbol of the movement in honor of Enrique Camarena, an agent with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration kidnapped and killed while investigating drug traffickers. The campaign has reached millions of U.S. children and has been recognized by the U.S. Congress.

If you'd like information on substance abuse prevention programs, go to the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention's website at <http://prevention.samhsa.gov/About/>.

The Mt. Soledad Veterans Memorial

Mt. Soledad was chosen as the site for a permanent War Memorial in 1954 to honor veterans of the Korean War. Now in the new millennium, the War Memorial has become an even more special place with the installation of the Veterans Memorial Walls. The Memorial Walls are adorned with plaques dedicated to veterans. The public is invited to view the plaques and read the family tributes to those brave men and women.

If you'd like to honor a veteran who has touched your life, you can do so by purchasing such a plaque. There are various plaques and brick pavers available, as well as certain eligibility requirements to meet. For more information, call the Mt. Soledad Memorial Association at (858) 551-5226 or visit their website at <http://www.soledadmemorial.com/>.

Join me at the San Diego Canyons Music Festival

This event, hosted by the San Diego chapter of the Sierra Club, is a great way to meet other San Diegans, listen to some fun music, and learn how to become more involved in protecting our environment.

There will be performances by Koco Loco, Saturday Morning Blue Grass Band, Grove, Celtic Ensemble, and more. The event will be held in Pacific Beach on November 9th, and runs from 2:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m – I'm planning to stop by before 3:00 pm. For more information go to <http://sandiego.sierraclub.org/canyons/>.

I hope to see you there!

Free Brochures available from the Kehoe Library

I have a variety of free brochures available to you. Email me at Assemblymember.Kehoe@assembly.ca.gov to get a listing of our brochures and have some sent to you.